

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 5, 2012 to July 10, 2013**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**OCTOBER 9, 2013**

**PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES**  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,**  
**TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.**

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2013**

**CHAPTER 372**  
**S.P. 268 - L.D. 730**

**An Act To Protect Maine's  
Loons by Banning Lead  
Sinkers and Jigs**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12663-A**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §288 and affected by §422, is repealed.

**Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §12663-B** is enacted to read:

**§12663-B. Unlawful sale of lead sinkers and bare lead jigs**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

**A. "Bare lead jig"** means an unpainted lead jig that contains lead and that:

- (1) Weighs one ounce or less; or
- (2) Measures 2 1/2 inches or less in length.

**B. "Lead sinker"** means a device that contains lead that is designed to be attached to a fishing line and intended to sink the line and that:

- (1) Weighs one ounce or less; or
- (2) Measures 2 1/2 inches or less in length.

"Lead sinker" does not include artificial lures, weighted line, weighted flies or jig heads.

**2. Sale of lead sinker or bare lead jig.** This subsection governs the sale of lead sinkers and bare lead jigs.

**A. A person may not:**

- (1) Sell a lead sinker; or
- (2) Beginning September 1, 2016, sell a bare lead jig.

**B. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.**

**C. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.**

**3. Offer lead sinker or bare lead jig for sale.** This subsection governs offering lead sinkers and bare lead jigs for sale.

**A. A person may not:**

- (1) Offer for sale a lead sinker; or
- (2) Beginning September 1, 2016, offer for sale a bare lead jig.

**B. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.**

**C. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.**

**Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §12664** is enacted to read:

**§12664. Unlawful use of lead sinkers and bare lead jigs**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

**A. "Bare lead jig"** means an unpainted lead jig that contains lead and that:

- (1) Weighs one ounce or less; or
- (2) Measures 2 1/2 inches or less in length.

**B. "Lead sinker"** means a device that contains lead that is designed to be attached to a fishing line and intended to sink the line and that:

- (1) Weighs one ounce or less; or
- (2) Measures 2 1/2 inches or less in length.

"Lead sinker" does not include artificial lures, weighted line, weighted flies or jig heads.

**2. Unlawful use.** This subsection governs the use of lead sinkers and bare lead jigs.

**A. A person may not:**

- (1) Use a lead sinker; or
- (2) Beginning September 1, 2017, use a bare lead jig.

**B. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.**

**C. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.**

See title page for effective date.